



The New Brockton Elementary Student Government Association recently collected over 500 pounds of food for the Elba Christian Mission Center. Accepting the donation for the Christian Mission is Dennis Jenkins, Elba Bargain Center Manager and Cathy Denison, Marketing Director, Christian Mission. Officers of the SGA left to right: Dammy Mock, Vice President, Heather Hendrix, President; Aubrey Hawkins, Secretary; and Claire Bailey, Treasurer. "We salute these young women for their outstanding job in helping us to feed the many hurting in our area. The Christian Mission fed 66,000 people last year and the needs are growing each day." "We appreciate their willing hearts in helping our Ministry" said Cathy Denison, Marketing Director, Christian Mission.

TOWN

(Continued from Page One)

said applications and resumes will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24.

Council members presented a letter of agreement regarding the addition of a K9 unit to the police department. The agreement was from officer Jerome Cobb in which he would

donate his dog to the town for \$1 providing the town agreed to meet various requirements including paying for food and medical expenses, as well as, insuring the dog.

Mayor Cole said the training of the dog would be donated, therefore, the only cost to the town would be food and medical expenses.

Harrison said she was a little concerned about the medical expenses portion of the agreement. She said this could cost the town lots of money if the dog were ever injured.

Harrison said she would like to see a letter stating how much the town would spend on medical expenses before the agreement is signed. Also, White said he would like to get an estimate on how much the insurance will cost.

With this questions at hand, the council voted to table the letter of agreement until more information could be provided and possible some adjustments made to the agreement.

Mayor Cole reminded everyone that the town offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 17, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Due to the holiday, he said the working group meeting will be Monday, Jan. 24.

Samford University

with Coffee Baptist Association

Offers class in Coffee County
Joshua - OT114
taught by Rev. Leon Adams
6:30 - 7:30 P.M.

Monday Nights:
January 10 - March 28, 2005

Coffee County Baptist Center
603 East McKinnon, New Brockton, AL 36351
Samford University will give continuing education credits.

For further information, call (334) 894-8411
Pre-register now!

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Lewis Grizzard's "Salute To Mama"
A One Man Show Starring Bill Oberst Jr.
January 13, 2005 • 7:30 p.m.
Elba High School
Presented by the Coffee County Arts Alliance

The following is one of the many stories made famous by Lewis Grizzard:

He Up And Died And Broke
My Heart (November, 1993)

My dog Catfish, the black Lab, died Thanksgiving night. The vet said his heart gave out.

Down in the country, they would have said, "Lewis' dog up and died." He would have been twelve had he lived till January.

Catfish had a good life. He slept indoors. Mostly he ate what I ate. We shared our last meal Tuesday evening in our living room in front of the television. We had a Wendy's double cheeseburger and some chili.

Catfish was a gift from my friends Barbara and Vince Dooley. Vince, of course, is the athletic director at the University of Georgia. Barbara is a noted speaker and author. I named him driving back to Atlanta from Athens where I had picked him up at the Dooleys' home.

I don't know why I named him what I named him. He was all curled up in the front seat of my back seat. And I looked at him and it just came out. I called him, "Catfish." I swear he raised up from the blanket and acknowledged me. Then he severely folded the blanket and my back seat.

He was a most destructive animal in the first three years of his life. He chewed things. He chewed books. He chewed shoes. "Heel," I used to offer from behind the dias, "and he went to my closet and chewed up my best pair of Guccis." Catfish chewed TV, remote-control devices. Batteries and all. He chewed my glasses. Five pairs of them.

Good dogs don't love bad people.

He was smart. He was fun. And he loved to ride in cars. There were times he was all that I had. And now he has up and died. My own heart, or what is left of it, is breaking.

was otherwise unharmed. "I came around the corner," the young man explained, "and he was in the road chewing on something. I hit my brakes the second I saw him." "Could you tell what he was chewing on?" I asked. "I know this sounds crazy," the young man answered, "but I think it was a beer bottle."

Catfish stopped chewing while I still had a house. Barely.

He was a celebrity. Catfish. I spoke recently in Michigan. Afterwards a lady came up to me and said, "I was real disappointed with your speech. You didn't mention Catfish."

He got his own mail. Just the other day the manufacturer of a new brand of dog food called "Country Gold," with none other than George Jones' picture on the package, sent Catfish a sample of its new product. For the record, he still preferred cheeseburgers and some chili.

Catfish was once grand marshal of the Scottsboro, Alabama, "Annual Catfish Festival." He was on television and got to ride in the front seat of a police car with its siren on.

He was a patient good-natured dog too. Jordan, who is five, has been pulling his ears since he was two. She even tried to ride him at times. He abided with many a growl.

Oh, that face and those eyes. What he could do to me with that face and those eyes. He would perch himself next to me on the sofa in the living room and look at me. And love and loyalty would pour out with that look, and as long as I had that, there was very little the human race could do to harm my self-esteem.

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William Preston
Faris celebrates
his first birthday

INSIDE
U.S. Sen. Richard
Shelby sworn in
for fourth term

INSIDE
Gary Glass
enjoying first
year at New
Brockton High

The Elba Clipper

Volume 108, Number 31 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, January 13, 2005 1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Vandals leave path of destruction in Coffee County

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Authorities continue to search for the person(s) responsible for two separate acts of vandalism that occurred either sometime late Thursday night Jan. 6, or early Friday morning Jan. 7, in northern Coffee County.

The most serious act was the burning of a timber bridge on County Road 365, a dirt road

just inside the Elba jurisdiction of the county.

With no residences on the road, the fire was well underway before being discovered, and it is hard to say when it actually began. However, authorities did find evidence where the vandals/arsenists soaked the bridge in a substance, most likely gasoline or diesel fuel, to ensure complete destruction of the

bridge.

He said the one-lane, five-span timber bridge was 85 feet long and 16 feet wide. The road is now closed because the bridge was completely destroyed by the fire.

Tindell said there are no residents on the particular road, but it is highly traveled by surrounding residents.

"The taxpayers of Coffee County will have to pay for the replacement of this bridge," he said.

According to Tindell, the estimated cost of rebuilding the bridge will be \$40-50,000. He said the worst part is that the county just recently completed a project on the bridge where approximately \$3,000 was spent in replacing rotten timber on the bridge.

Tindell said he thinks an incident like this should outrage the public enough, especially with the people having to foot the bills for such destruction, that they will keep an eye out for suspicious activity and report it to local authorities.

Susie Stokes, a resident of County Road 359 which is adjacent to County Road 365, was in attendance at the commission meeting, and she said has complained on many occasions about the vandalism on that

Please See VANDALS, Page 2

Group addresses Elba City Council

Some residents of Beaver Dam Trailer Park upset over letter sent by city

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council was met by a room full of upset citizens Monday evening as they convened for their first official meeting of 2005.

A group of residents from the Beaver Dam Trailer Park were present and demanding answers and relief.

Each of these residents had received a registered letter from the city notifying them that Elba had purchased the land and instructing them to move their mobile homes by April 1st. The letters were received on Christmas Eve by most residents, which further upset them.

Bufus Tillis, who was spokesperson for the residents, asked "What is going on? We are in the dark about this."

He noted that no one had discussed this with him, nor any of the other residents. All they knew was what they had read in the newspaper around Thanksgiving about the city planning to purchase the property.

Mayor James Grimes explained that the city had purchased the land and each of the trailer owners had been sent a letter. Grimes explained it was a safety matter, and the FAA was refusing to certify the Elba airport until those mobile homes were moved.

Tillis said, "We all knew the airport was there before we moved our mobile homes in there. Our families can't sue the city if something happened to us because we knew it was there first."

Bufus Tillis (standing) addresses the members of the Elba City Council on behalf of the residents of the Beaver Dam Trailer Park. Some of the residents are upset over a registered letter they recently received indicating they will have to move their mobile home by April 1st. Many of the residents feel they are being kept in the dark.

He continued with comments that these people here (park residents) are human and have a soul. Those airplanes are metal and go to the scrap pile when unusable. He voiced an opinion that only about a dozen flights a week went in and out of the Elba airport, hardly enough to justify disrupting all these homeowners.

A resolution on authorizing the mayor and city clerk to sign paper work on a pending 20 year bond issue brought several minutes of discussion before being approved.

Council member Tom Hooks

Please See CITY, Page 12

another site would be about \$1,000 each.

At the recommendation of Mayor Grimes, the matter was tabled until city officials could study the issue further. Before the meeting adjourned, a special workshop was set for January 31st for council members to discuss all these homeowners.

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EDITORIAL

VANDALS

(Continued from Page One)

BRAINSTORMS
with Ferrin Cox

Senator Richard Shelby is making his rounds across Alabama in between legislative sessions. These things have become his trademark, and it also gives each of us a chance to praise him personally or maybe vent frustrations. Tuesday he held forth in the Enterprise City Hall with a large crowd of interested citizens. A subject he mentioned has been discussed many times before.... A dam on Pea River, above Elba. We first heard this discussed in the early 1960s. A later study by the Corp. of Engineers indicated it wasn't cost effective. Still the idea crops up regularly. We discussed this project with one of the Corp. decision makers a couple of years ago and heard all the above but he did acknowledge that cost effectiveness can change with the ever changing economy. Also, he acknowledged that Senator Richard Shelby carries a lot of weight in Washington and across the nation and if he wants a lake, can arrange the money. The Corp. will happily oversee the construction of said lake. Such a lake could serve several positive purposes. Flood control, recreation, water supply - both drinking and agricultural water, the list continues. Of course if the money was in hand today, red tape and construction work would take another ten years. Yet how old would the world be ten years from now if the project isn't started.... we are interested in your comments, pro and con on such a lake. We will pass them on to the senator.

Covering the burning of the wooden bridge in Coffee County is a first for us. In over 40 years right here in this office, we have never seen a bridge in the middle of nowhere just burning. Destructive actions have no place in our order of life, but apparently some folks enjoy destroying things. Crimes should not go unpunished but there is another reason this one needs solving. More folks than yours truly would like to know exactly what would motivate an individual (or bunch of folks) to set fire to a bridge on a little traveled dirt road? We have read of firebugs who enjoy watching something burn, but unless someone was well hidden in the swampy woods, they were not watching this bridge burn. There was only firemen and police officers there when they called us with a report of the unusual fire.

Helping those in Asia devastated by the December tsunami is the right thing to do, both governments and individuals should step up to the plate. However each of us needs to be careful exactly to whom we give our donations. There are already reports of con artists taking advantage, just taking money, etc., in the name of disaster relief. We agree that often a small charitable group can get more bang for the buck if it is run efficiently, but be sure you know the group. Don't be swayed by the goody-goody sounding name, claimed church affiliation, helping orphans, etc. A con artist has no feelings for anyone. These red flags make it more practical for most of us to give our donations to an established church charity, the Red Cross or those of us - the Salvation Army. But let's do give, give, and give some more.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, to 1209 Farris Ave. (10:39 beginning Monday, Jan. 3, a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched, investigated, and driving under the influence, four of theft of property, one violation of a restraining order, one possession of marijuana, one possession of drug paraphernalia, one possession of a controlled substance, one criminal trespassing, one harassing communications, one vehicle burglary, one arson, two for harassment, two for minor consumption of alcohol, one theft, one hit and run and one allowing a dog to run at large.

The following arrests were made: one for driving under the influence, two for failure to appear, one for assault, one for domestic violence, one for harassment, one for criminal trespassing, one for possession of marijuana, one for possession of drug paraphernalia, one for possession of a controlled substance, one for violation of a protection order and two for minor consumption of alcohol.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: two for a suspended driver's license, one for a driver's license restriction, one for no tag, one for no insurance and one for speeding.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, JAN. 3 - Disturbance reported from 611 Jackson St. (5:01 a.m.); Burglary reported - 365 County Rd. 401 (11:52 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JAN. 4 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to Jones (12:35 p.m.); Disturbance reported on Jackson St. (5:23 p.m.).

Coffee County EMS dispatched

road, as well as, County roads 359 and 350.

Although, County Road 365 is not populated, she said it is heavily traveled as many people use it for "joy rides." She said these roads are in bad shape, not because of the "county," but because of four-wheeler damage.

Despite being illegal, she said people ride four-wheelers on these roads all the time.

Tindell said it will probably be a couple of months before his department can figure out what to do and get it done in regards to rebuilding the bridge on County Road 365, but he said this project will now move ahead of many already scheduled. He said hopefully the department can get everything back on schedule before the end of the year.

While the timeframe regarding the vandalism/arson on County Road 365 remains uncertain, Friday morning also revealed an act of vandalism at the Newbia voting house on County Road 306. This incident seems to also have occurred sometime between late Thursday night, Jan. 6, and early Friday morning, Jan. 7.

According to authorities, it appears the building was rammed by a vehicle causing extensive damage to the front of the building. The voting house is a block building, and the force of the incident caused several of the blocks to break and collapse.

County administrator Wilson

Mobley mentioned this incident to commissioners during



The destruction of the timber bridge on County Road 365 was evident as the wood burned to a crisp last Friday morning, Jan. 7, while other pieces fell below into the creek. Upon arriving on scene, authorities quickly realized this fire was no accident as they found evidence the bridge had been soaked in gas or fuel to help ignite the flames and ensure destruction.

That incident was reported to

the Coffee County Sheriff's Department Friday morning shortly after the fire on County Road 365 was reported to the Elba Police Department.

County administrator Wilson

Mobley mentioned this incident to commissioners during

Monday morning's meeting. The county will have to make repairs to the building before it can be used again.

Authorities have not said if the two incidents are connected; however, the investigations continue on both as the Elba Police Department and Coffee County Sheriff's Department at (334) 894-5535.

Sheriff's Department search for the person(s) responsible. Anyone with information that might help officials capture and arrest those responsible should call either the Elba Police Department at (334) 897-2555 or the Coffee County Sheriff's Department at (334) 894-5535.

County administration, Sheriff's Department and Coffee County

Commissioners are investigating the incidents.

It is hard for us to truly comprehend the death and destruction of the recent earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Southeast Asia. The massive earthquake in the Indian Ocean caused a giant wall of water to swell across the ocean at an estimated rate of miles per hour striking the shore with little or no notice and instantly killing more than 100,000 people and leaving thousands homeless, widowed, orphaned and alone.

I am proud to be an American because, in spite of our many flaws, there is an inherent sense of decency in our people. Our shared values transcend political philosophy. This is why the United States was the first country to offer financial assistance to the devastated nations in Asia.

The Bible teaches us in Ecclesiastes that "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." There is a time for political fighting; it is one of the great features of our Democracy that, as Americans, we can air our political differences publicly.

It is also true that there is a time for putting away partisan politics and joining together for the common good. Now is clearly that time.

Recently, we saw political rivals, former Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton work together for the common good by raising money to bring the basic needs of food, water, shelter and medical assistance to those suffering due to the 2004 tsunami.

Bush and Clinton are asking Americans to contribute personally to the international relief effort through any of the credible aid organizations listed on the USA Freedom Corps website at <http://www.usafreedom-corps.gov> that are already on the ground in Southeast Asia providing valuable supplies and services to the survivors.

Alabamians know what it is to suffer through major natural disasters. We experienced the violence of Hurricane Ivan in 2004. As extensive as our damage was from that terrible storm, it pales in comparison to the violence and destruction of this tsunami.

After looking at numerous news stories and photographs of the destruction and reading several heroic survival stories and tragic loss accounts, I cannot truly comprehend what has happened to the people in Southeast Asia. I feel strongly that I should do something to help this region of the world.

It is our duty as Americans to come to the aid of the down-trodden, the suffering, the helpless and the hopeless. This duty or value is instilled in us because of our heritage from which a significant influence is derived from our faith. America's best face is shown when provide care and comfort to those in need.

I call on you as Alabamians and Americans, to join me and thousands of others in supporting the American relief effort for our countless brothers and sisters halfway around the world who need our help. As Americans, this is the time for us to make a difference for those in need both financially, through donations, and spiritually, through our unceasing prayers.

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I call on you as Alabamians and Americans, to join me and thousands of others in supporting the American relief effort for our countless brothers and sisters halfway around the world who need our help. As Americans, this is the time for us to make a difference for those in need both financially, through donations, and spiritually, through our unceasing prayers.

I am proud to be an American because, in spite of our many flaws, there is an inherent sense of decency in our people. Our shared values transcend political philosophy. This is why the United States was the first country to offer financial assistance to the devastated nations in Asia.

The Bible teaches us in Ecclesiastes that "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." There is a time for political fighting; it is one of the great features of our Democracy that, as Americans, we can air our political differences publicly.

It is also true that there is a time for putting away partisan politics and joining together for the common good. Now is clearly that time.

Recently, we saw political rivals, former Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton work together for the common good by raising money to bring the basic needs of food, water, shelter and medical assistance to those suffering due to the 2004 tsunami.

Bush and Clinton are asking Americans to contribute personally to the international relief effort through any of the credible aid organizations listed on the USA Freedom Corps website at <http://www.usafreedom-corps.gov> that are already on the ground in Southeast Asia providing valuable supplies and services to the survivors.

Alabamians know what it is to suffer through major natural disasters. We experienced the violence of Hurricane Ivan in 2004. As extensive as our damage was from that terrible storm, it pales in comparison to the violence and destruction of this tsunami.

After looking at numerous news stories and photographs of the destruction and reading several heroic survival stories and tragic loss accounts, I cannot truly comprehend what has happened to the people in Southeast Asia. I feel strongly that I should do something to help this region of the world.

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Richard Shelby sworn-in to fourth term in U.S. Senate

U.S. Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL) was sworn-in today to a fourth term as one of Alabama's two United States Senators. Senator Shelby made the following statement upon being sworn-in:

"It is a privilege to have the opportunity to represent the people of Alabama for another six years in the United States Senate. Over the past eighteen years, it has been my priority to ensure that Alabama's interests are represented and protected in Washington. In a fourth term, I will continue that record of service and will uphold my commitment to hold county meetings in every county every year."

"The 109th Congress holds tremendous promise for our country and our service. I look forward to an ambitious agenda, including overhauling our antiquated tax code, moving towards energy independence, and considering the important

issue of reforming Social Security. Working with President Bush, I believe we have an opportunity to make tremendous progress for our country in the coming years."

"I am confident that the expanded Republican majority will allow the Senate to break the impasse on judicial nominations, giving qualified nominees the up or down vote they deserve so that we can fill vacancies on the federal bench."

"Congress must also provide the necessary resources for our military as they continue to fight the war on terrorism. It is imperative that our armed forces have the best equipment and best supplies as they continue to serve so honorably in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the globe."

"

From left to right: Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL); William Shelby, grandson of Senator and Dr. Shelby; Dr. Annette Shelby, and Vice President Dick Cheney.

Elba General Hospital has limited supply of flu vaccine

Elba General Hospital currently has a limited supply of flu vaccine available to those persons in the groups listed below. The hospital will administer flu vaccines on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons between the hours of 1 PM and 4 PM. Those wishing to receive a vaccine should register at the switchboard located inside the emergency entrance. Insurance will be filed for Medicare participants. All others should be prepared to pay a \$20 administration fee. We will be unable to vaccinate persons under the age of 18. Please wear clothing that makes the upper arm easily accessible. Those persons allergic to hen eggs should not receive the vaccine.

Vaccination Group:

- All adults age 50 and older
- Persons age 18 and older with chronic medical conditions (diabetes, heart or lung disease, or persons with weakened immune systems because of illness or medication)
- All women who will be pregnant during the flu season
- Out of home caregivers and household members of persons with chronic medical conditions and of children under age 2.

January 31 deadline looms for farmers and fishermen

Program for Farmers, impacted producers of raw agricultural commodities have approximately two weeks left to take advantage of financial and technical training benefit offered by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) if their commodity suffered a significant price decline in the past year, due to foreign imports.

Through the USDA's Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program for Farmers, impacted producers of such commodities must file a formal petition with the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to establish eligibility for assistance. "The petition - available through the USDA web-site or by calling a toll-free number - is a relatively simple process," said USDA Trade Adjustment Assistance Coordinator Jean-Louis Pajot. "But the paperwork must be filed

and submitted to our Washington, D.C. offices no later than Jan. 31, 2005."

According to David Bell, Executive Director of the Maine Wild Blueberry Commission, the benefit to impacted farmers in his state have been considerable, and he should know since his organization filed the petition on behalf of his constituents.

"For years, the blueberry industry in Maine was extremely

profitable, increasing from just under 20 million pounds annually to more than 75 million pounds in the 1990s," he said. But over the last decade, increased production and imports from Canada severely impacted our production, resulting in a major price depression for 2002. "Thanks to the petition process, all of our producers were eligible to receive technical training and some even collected cash benefits."

To obtain such aid, Bell petitioned the USDA under the Trade Adjustment Assistance program. Through an extensive, yet timely investigative process that is conducted within 40 days of a petition being accepted, FAS determined that, from January through December 2002, imports did, in fact, contribute significantly to a decline in domestic prices for Maine blueberry producers, when compared with the previous five-year average. Under TAA, established by the Trade Act of 1974 as amended in 2002, the USDA certified the Commission's petition, making all wild blueberry producers in Maine eligible to apply for TAA benefits.

According to FAS figures, several other producers of raw commodities have seen their prices decline in recent years, prompting those producers to explore the benefits offered under TAA.

"But to be eligible for trade adjustment benefits in the current fiscal year, groups of farmers and fishermen or their representatives must file their petitions no later than January 31," Pajot said. "To ensure a prompt response, fax and e-mail are the recommended delivery methods."

Once the petition is filed, the agency will spearhead an investigation to determine if the commodity meets the criteria for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program. If a petition is, in fact, certified, producers then have 90 days to contact the nearest office of the USDA's Farm Service Agency to apply for assistance.

According to Pajot, all eligible producers receive technical training and may receive cash benefits up to \$10,000, depending on the amount of production marketed and if they meet certain income criteria. Technical training benefits are designed to help producers and fishermen explore additional commodities, marketing opportunities, and alternative enterprises.

The petition form, Pajot said, is available online at www.fas.usda.gov/tpfaa/FA50930.pdf. It may also be requested by phone at (202) 720-2916 or by e-mail at trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.

Completed petitions may be faxed to (202) 720-0876.

Petitions may be filed by a group of three or more producers or an authorized representative, and they may be made on behalf of a state, region or the nation as a whole.

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MONDAY,
JAN. 17, 2005
(Observed)



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SCHOOLS

FROM THE COCKPIT

New Brockton School News

Sponsor: Lori Cotney

Does money matter in sports?

by Alexa Adams

Have you ever wondered how a school gets money for its athletic programs?

Well, as a cheerleader here at

NBHS we have fund raisers for our shoes, pom-poms, ribbons, and all the other things that we need. We sell spirit shirts and spirit ribbons.

This year we got lucky with a contest we entered with Wal-Mart, who donated some funds to us, but coaches and teams cannot depend on that every year.

Of course if a coach is getting good pay then he may be more likely to have a winning desire and most certainly more pressure to win, but not necessarily more desire. Coaches can be dedicated and have a passion for winning no matter how much money they make, that much is obvious with our NBHS coaches.

Like everything else in this world, high school sports could not exist without money.

But does more money matter? Do schools or athletic programs that have more money have better, more successful teams?

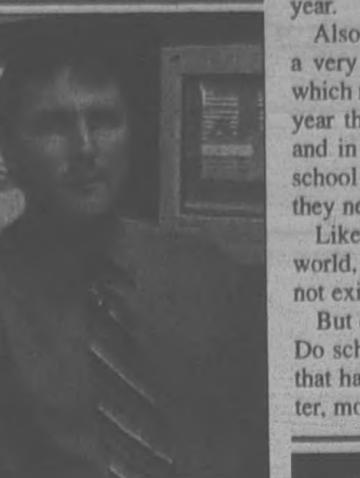
N.B.H.S. Faculty Spotlight

by Katie Richardson

This year one of our many new additions to NBHS is Assistant Principal Gary Glass.

Mr. Glass graduated from Kinston High School and attended college at Troy University. He is the husband of Jenell Glass. They have two children, TJ, 8 years-old; and Alissa, 5 years-old. Mr. Glass takes his job seriously and tries his best to reach and relate to the students. He finds interaction time with students the best part of his job. The fact that administrators want to see the students succeed and excel is the main message he tries to relay.

Mr. Glass makes himself approachable and always encourages. By doing so, he believes kids will try harder to set goals and achieve them. The most important thing he tries to teach is responsibility and to value a good education.



When Mr. Glass isn't at NBHS or spending time with friends and family he enjoys playing basketball, fishing and playing guitar. Mr. Glass looks forward to many more years of fulfilling and memorable moments at New Brockton High School.

Mr. Glass is a very supportive athletic club, which raises its own money each year through lots of hard work, and in turn gives it back to the school and teams for whatever they need.

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Coffee County Schools

Menu

January 17 - 21, 2005

BREAKFAST

Monday - Holiday - No School

Tuesday - Pancake Pups, Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk

Wednesday - Steak Biscuit, Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk

Thursday - Cheese Gris, Toast, Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk

Friday - Muffins, Cereal, Juice, Milk

LUNCH

Monday - Holiday - No School

Tuesday - Beef & Cheese Nacho's, Turkey Sandwich on Whole Wheat Bread, Whole Kernel Corn, Tater Tot, Fruit, Milk

Wednesday - Chicken Sandwich, Fish Sandwich, Cole Slaw, Fried Okra, Fruit, Milk

Thursday - Baked Ham, Turkey Roast, Blackeye Peas, Collards, Cornbread, Fruit, Milk

Friday - Meat Loaf, RIB-B-Q Sandwich, Cream Potatoes, English Peas, Rolls, Fruit, Milk

Corrupt college recruiting

by Allen Herrington

really showed in the 1980 season when they lost to Houston 59-21. SMU never recovered from the penalty, only mustering one winning season since then.

The competition is not just on the playing field, but it often carries over into the off season.

Schools are willing to do anything to get the best recruits to come to their school, often breaking the rules.

One of the more recent more known events is the controversy over the recent TCU football team.

It is my belief that at this day and age, media has a huge impact on our daily lives.

It might influence how you feel about certain sports teams, it even goes as far as to influence what kinds of food you eat.

Media can be good because it informs you on important issues going on in your country, state, and community. Everyone has the opportunity to use the media for their own advantage.

But, can media go to far?

It is my belief that at this day and age, media has a huge impact on our daily lives.

It might influence how you feel about certain sports teams, it even goes as far as to influence what kinds of food you eat.

Media can be good because it informs you on important issues going on in your country, state, and community. Everyone has the opportunity to use the media for their own advantage.

Brittany Thomaston - I think the media spreads a lot of false information (rumors) but the truth is sometimes said. I think local news is more trustworthy than national news.

Tori Stone - The media has many different effects on our society, some good and some bad. Most of the time more good than bad.

Chasity Wood - I think Media can get too personal at times. They flock to every little thing that happens. If something bad happened to me I want it to be my business, unless I commit a BIG crime.

Ashlee Taylor - Too many people try to imitate what they see or hear in the media. Many of the things portrayed in the media are not normally acceptable.

SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

\$300



NBHS students at P.E. - sitting down?

NBHS's Song of the Month

NBHS students' interests in music range from one extreme to another, so it's not exactly easy to pick one song as our standout song for the month.

However, for our very first edition of this column, one song seemed to be continuously mentioned by our students.

Fantasia's "I Believe" made it to #1 on Billboard's Hot 100 Chart in June as she was celebrating her 20th birthday. Fantasia is America's most recent Idol, taking the honor on the last episode, which aired in the Spring of 2004.

From the beginning of the 2004 American Idol episode, Fantasia stood out, winning without much competition. Her voice is one of remarkable uniqueness, one for whom you reach down and turn up the radio time and again.

She made history with the single becoming the first artist in the history of

We will be closed Monday,

January 17, 2005, in

observance of Martin Luther

King Jr.'s Birthday

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SPORTS

Views From... THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

School has started back after the long holiday break and with both girls in school that means Dad has to wait for the hot water heater to heat back up before I can shave and jump in the shower. Santa brought razors to both our daughters in an effort to help save my face, but one morning last week I had to pick my razor up off the bottom of the tub and had to shave very carefully to avoid nicks and cuts. Oh well, I am half asleep when I shave anyway!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

*** The Elba Tigers lost to Highland Home and Luverne last week to slip to 0-3 in the area and are now staring at the number four seed in the upcoming area tournament. The losses left the Tigers with an 8-7 record on the season, and after a solid start it looks like Coach Bledsoe's team now has a fight on its hands just to finish the season with a winning record. While it is true the Tigers can compete with every team on its schedule, it is also true that when the Tigers don't play their best they can lose to any team they play! With fifteen games in the books it is past time for Elba to develop a consistency on the court and start playing well for four quarters every time it hits the court.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers suffered their first loss in the area last week at Highland Home, but appear to be on the upswing as time nears. The Bulldogs have slowed down their act a little and seem more comfortable on both ends of the court, while the Rebels are also slowing things down a little and have found the change to their liking. All of the sudden both these teams are teams to watch in their area races. New Brockton has continued to get better and better and even though the Gamecocks seem to lose a lot of close games, there can be no doubt this will be a team to watch before the season draws to a close. The Gamecocks have some youngsters that are learning the game on the court, and that on the job training will pay off very soon.

*** Auburn's Coach Tommy Tuberville stated last week that he would accept a national championship from any organization or person willing to honor his team, and last week came word that the daily newspaper in Eufaula had conducted its first-ever poll and named Auburn the national champions. It was crystal clear after the bowl games that Southern Cal was the best team in the nation, and even though it looked bad in the Orange Bowl, I think Oklahoma is still the second best team ahead of Auburn. My Auburn friends know I feel bad while they obviously had hoped their Tigers would finish #1, they too accept the fact Auburn finished second. If Tuberville isn't careful he may hurt his arm or back from putting himself on the bench for longer than he needs to.

*** In closing... Ye Old Polish Prognosticator dropped by over the weekend and brought with him his own "River Rankings" for the high school teams in the area. There is nothing scientific about the poll, just his own feelings about the best teams around. Here goes (Class 1A-3A) 1. Florala, 2. Brantley, 3. Red Level, 4. Luverne, 5. Samson (Class 4A-6A) 1. Dothan, 2. Northview, 3. Charles Henderson, 4. Ashford, 5. Enterprise.

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NOTICE

CITY PRIVILEGE LICENSES ARE DUE

JANUARY 1, 2005

And Will Be Delinquent

FEBRUARY 1, 2005

There Will Be A Penalty Fee Plus Interest
Charged If Not Paid By Due Date!

Municipal Ordinances require that all persons engaged in any exhibition, trade, business, vocation, occupation, profession or calling or doing any action specified within the corporate limits/police jurisdiction of THE CITY OF ELBA are subject to a BUSINESS LICENSE.

CITY OF ELBA
WAYNE GRANTHAM
CITY CLERK

Area record slips to 0-3

Tigers struggle to find wins on the road

The Elba Tigers got into the meat of their area schedule last week with visits to Highland Home and Luverne and dropped both contests to fall to 0-3 in the area standings.

The Tigers opened the week in Highland Home and dropped a 73-64 decision to the Highland Home Flying Squadron, then closed the week in Luverne with a 75-74 overtime loss to the Luverne Tigers.

Following are highlights of both games:

H. HOME 73

ELBA 64

The Elba Tigers traveled to Highland Home last Monday night and came home with a 73-64 defeat, in a key area contest for both teams.

Elba jumped out to an early 4-0 lead on baskets by Mason Gulley and LaRay Williams and battled the Flying Squadron on even terms for much of the opening stanza. A short jumper by Shawn Abbott pulled Elba even at 12-12 with 2:51 remaining in the quarter. However, it was the last points the Tigers would score in the quarter and by the end of the quarter Highland Home owned a 20-12 advantage.

The Tigers began to chip away at the Highland Home lead early in the second quarter and after a three-pointer by Brandon Kelley and a free-throw by Reymar Rogers trailed only 22-20 with 6:32 left in the half. Mason Gulley scored from inside to put the Tigers back on top 25-24 with 4:12 remaining and Elba held the lead for much of the stanza, only to see Highland Home score late to carry a slim 36-35 lead at the half.

Elba pulled ahead 41-38 early in the third quarter on a three-pointer by Brandon Kelley and a free-throw by Reymar Rogers.

The Tigers came out ready to play in the crucial area road game and jumped out to a 17-13 lead in the opening stanza, only to see Luverne take control in the second quarter and take a 50-41 lead with a

LUVERNE 75

ELBA 74

The Elba Tigers wiped out a 12-point fourth quarter deficit with a wild fourth quarter rally, but saw their chances to win in regulation end with two missed free-throws in the closing seconds and then saw the game slip away in the extra period as Luverne scored late on a slim 36-35 lead at the half.

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Area slate moves to 2-1

Elba Lady Tigers split with area opponents

The Elba Lady Tigers hit the court twice last week in area action and posted one win and one loss to end the week with an 8-5 record, 2-1 in the area standings.

The Lady Tigers opened the action on Monday night with a 48-28 road loss to Highland Home, but rebounded Friday night with a 41-31 win over Luverne, in Luverne.

Following are highlights of both games:

H. HOME 48

ELBA 28

The Elba Lady Tigers fell behind early and never recovered last Monday night in a 48-28 loss to the Highland Home Lady Squadron.

The Lady Tigers failed to score for the first five minutes of the game as Highland Home pulled ahead 9-0, and while LaFonda Thigpen did connect on a three-pointer late in the stanza to snap the long scoring drought, the Lady Squadron never lost command and carried a 12-3 lead into the second stanza.

Ashleigh Waddell scored four points in the second quarter.

Baskets by LaFonda Thigpen and Yoyo Reynolds helped Elba pull within 9-0, and while LaFonda Thigpen did connect on a three-pointer late in the stanza to snap the long scoring drought, the Lady Squadron never lost command and carried a 12-3 lead into the second stanza.

Ashleigh Waddell scored four points in the second quarter.

LaFonda Thigpen scored 12 points to lead Elba, while Arington scored 21 to lead

ELBA 41

LUVERNE 31

The Elba Lady Tigers pulled ahead early and held on late Friday night to post an important 41-31 area win over Luverne, in Luverne.

The Lady Tigers took command early and pulled up a 9-5 lead, then turned over command in the second stanza as they carried a 21-15 lead in the half. Elba moved ahead 28-20 in the third quarter and never looked back as they turned back a late Luverne rally to post the 41-31 win.

Yoyo Reynolds scored 16 points to lead Elba, while Dixon led Luverne with 12 points.

Elba (41): Thigpen 7, Carpenter 4, Lawford 6, Reynolds 16, Henderson 6.

Luverne (31): Franklin 6, McDougal 5, Dixon 12, Brantley 8.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

New Brockton at Luverne (4:30) JV-VG-VB

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

New Brockton at Luverne (4:30) JV-VG-VB

1:38 remaining in the quarter, LaRay Williams snapped the long scoring drought with a pair of free-throws with 1:38 left in the quarter, but Highland Home remained in command and carried a 54-46 lead into the final stanza.

The Flying Squadron ipped its lead to 62-50 with 5:22 remaining in the fourth quarter and appeared ready to blow the game wide open, but Elba refused to quit and battled back behind the three-point shooting of Brandon Kelley to cut the deficit to 67-59 with 2:39 left on the clock. Mason Gulley hit a free-throw with 1:41 remaining to pull the Tigers within 69-63, but that was as close as Elba would get as Highland Home held on and claimed the 73-64 win.

Elba pulled out to an early 4-0 lead on baskets by Mason Gulley and LaRay Williams and battled the Flying Squadron on even terms for much of the opening stanza. A short jumper by Shawn Abbott pulled Elba even at 12-12 with 2:51 remaining in the quarter. However, it was the last points the Tigers would score in the quarter and by the end of the quarter Highland Home owned a 20-12 advantage.

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The Flying Squadron ipped its lead to 62-50 with 5:22 remaining in the fourth quarter and appeared ready to blow the game wide open, but Elba refused to quit and battled back behind the three-point shooting of Brandon Kelley to cut the deficit to 67-59 with 2:39 left on the clock. Mason Gulley hit a free-throw with 1:41 remaining to pull the Tigers within 69-63, but that was as close as Elba would get as Highland Home held on and claimed the 73-64 win.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

CITY

(Continued from Page One)

questioned the mayor's recommendation of Merchant's Capital to handle the arrangements on the \$2.5 million loan.

He commented from a recent workshop indicating another firm quoted better interest rates, potentially saving the Elba tax payers \$80,000.

Grimes explained that one firm was quoting AA bonds and another was quoting AAA bonds. He produced additional data which showed Merchant's Capital with slightly lower interest rates when both were using the same class of bonds.

Grimes reminded all council members that the numbers from all the quoting firms were estimates and would be different on whatever day the bonds were sold. All council members acknowledged they understood this fact.

Hooks wanted to table the matter, get representatives of the firms back for additional discussions. Grimes wanted to move on because interest rates are rising.

All council voted in favor of moving on with Merchant's Capital, except Hooks who continued to oppose immediate action.

The funds will be used to restore some present debt at a lower interest rate, fund the upgrade of some city equipment and possibly pay for additional street resurfacing.

The council adopted a new Affirmative Action Plan and a new plan dealing with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

James Richards was con-

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CCC

(Continued from Page One)

sumed the mayor's recom-

mendation of Merchant's

Capital to handle the ar-

rangements on the \$2.5 mil-

lion loan.

The council authorized

Grimes to seek bids on a new garbage truck. It is expected to take two or three months to advertise for bids and get delivery on the vehicle. Once the new vehicle is in service, the old truck will be repaired and held in reserve to be used during heavy trash times.

Marty Marler was named the new City Attorney, replacing Jeff Kelley who was recently elected Circuit Judge and will take office this month. Marler, begins his new duties on January 18th.

Mayor Grimes noted, "Jeff

has done a great job with the city since we have been here.

He has done a great job of

keeping our city officials out

of legal trouble."

Monthly bills totaling

\$73,884.42 were approved for payment.

The monthly financial state-

ment was presented to council

members with little comment.

The mayor noted that revenue

was close to budget predictions.

He added that expenses were

up, mostly to one time annual

bills to be paid. He added that

they are facing the expense of modifying the sewer lagoon. He said the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) will be in Elba to discuss this with city officials within a few days. He doesn't expect them to allow the city to continue the present system which they contend is allowing excessive fecal matter out of the lagoon.

Grimes warned council mem-

bers that they may be facing the

cost of the lagoon.

He said the price offered by Trinity

was \$50,615. This price did not

include the slab for the building.

With this money available in

the budget, commissioners unanimously approved Tindell's

request.

In other business, commissioners:

* Approved a motion to place

nine surplus vehicles for sale on

the J.M. Wood Auction website.

* Approved renewal of county

administrator Wilson Mobley's

contract for employment.

* Authorized chairman Doug

Dalynpyle to sign a lease from

Annabelle Wilks for more land at

the site of the Zion Chapel Senior

Citizen Center pending approval

of the county's grant to build a

new senior center there.

* Accepted the one-year rate of

2.85 percent from The Peoples

Bank to renew a CD already in

place at the bank.

The next meeting of the

Coffee County Commission will

be Monday, Jan. 24, at 9 a.m. in

the community room of the

county complex in New

Brockton.

Dr. Scruggs stated that Dr. Ed

Meadows, President of

LBWCC, planted the seed in

their heads about the need for

endowed scholarships when he

was president of Ayers State

Technical College in Anniston,

AL. Dr. Meadows said of

Gisela and Tom Scruggs, "they

are two of the most generous

people I have ever known. They

were in the forefront of giving

for the benefit of students while

at Ayers State and we, at

LBWCC, are most fortunate to

have this gift to help our nursing

students." Dr. Scruggs retired

from Ayers State in 2003 as

director and instructor of the

Child Development.

The LBWCC Foundation is a

501 (C) 3 non-profit organization

supporting programs and

scholarships of LBWCC. All

levels of giving are important

and offer personal satisfaction

in promoting education and eco-

nomic development for the sur-

rounding area and are tax deduc-

tible. Contact Ms. Joree

Jones at 334-881-2262 to make

a donation or to receive more

information.



CUB SCOUTS VISIT Member of Cub Scout Pack 87, Jack, Alabama, and their Pack leaders recently visited The Elba Clipper as part of their on-going Pack member development work. The five in this group were all decked out in the Cub Scout uniforms on that faithful Saturday morning. Pictured from left to right are Taylor Naper, Blake Cardwell, Web Richburg, Jordan Turner and Chase Peoples.

LBWCC Foundation receives \$10,000 for nursing scholarship

Lureen B. Wallace Community College Foundation was the recent recipient of \$10,000 establishing an endowment to provide a partial tuition scholarship for nursing students attending Lureen B. Wallace Community College. Dr. Gisela Scruggs, PhD, of Talladega, AL made the presentation in honor of her husband, Tom Scruggs. Dr. Scruggs stated that she felt it was important to help support those individuals such as teachers and nurses that work with our children and the elderly. Dr. Scruggs emphasized that while it was not a large amount compared to some endowments; any amount helps those students that are struggling to pay tuition and expenses of a college education.

The Tom Scruggs Nursing Scholarship will be awarded to a 2nd year nursing student, in good standing, and demonstrating financial need.

Accepted the one-year rate of 2.85 percent from The Peoples

Bank to renew a CD already in place at the bank.

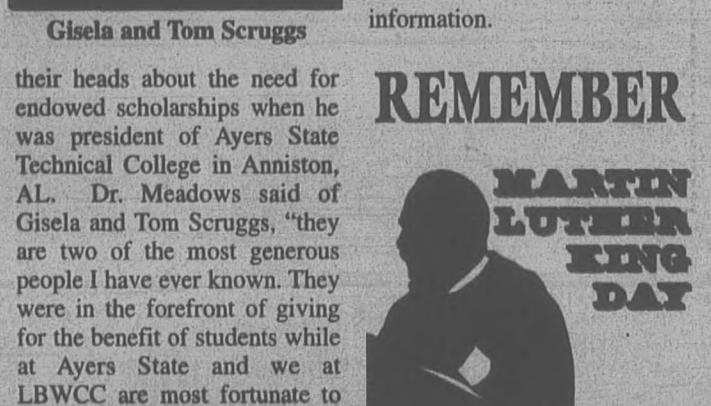
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